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Regular Meeting, April 21, 1959

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Adjournment - 7:35 P. M.

Torrance, California  
April 21, 1959

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular meeting at 5:30 P. M. Tuesday, April 21, 1959, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Blount, Bradford, Drale, Jahn, Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None. The City Manager and the City Attorney were also present.

At the request of Mayor Isen, City Attorney Remelmeyer led the salute to our Flag.

The Reverend Clifford Tierney of the South Bay Church of God opened the meeting with an invocation.

Councilman Benstead moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 14, 1959, as written.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, no objections, so ordered.

BIDS:

1. Mayor Isen announced that bids for furnishing grass seed were publicly opened in the Council Chamber at 10:30 A. M. Monday, April 20, 1959.

City Clerk Bartlett announced that the Affidavit of Publication is on file in the office of the City Clerk.

Assistant City Manager C. L. Bone told the Council that we have been eager to get this planted, and that a recommendation on the bid was on tonight's Agenda.

Mayor Isen said this would be acted upon in proper order.

Councilman Jahn moved that after the Clerk has given a number and read the title to any ordinance or resolution on tonight's agenda, the further reading thereof be waived; reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilman the right to demand the reading of any such ordinance or resolution in regular order.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Clerk Bartlett assigned numbers to, and read titles of, the ordinances and resolutions shown subsequently in these Minutes.

HEARINGS:

Mayor Isen announced this was the time and place for:

1. Hearing on Resolution No. 3646 - Intention to Vacate Lot P-6. City Clerk Bartlett presented the Affidavits of Publication and Posting.

Councilman Beasley moved these be received and filed.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered.

In reply to a question from the Mayor, the City Attorney said the City will not be paid for this land; Remco has the reversionary rights on the land, and they will receive any payment.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone present wished to be heard about this.

There was no reply.

Councilman Beasley moved to close this Hearing.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered.

Councilman Jahn referred to Section 2, and asked if the price to be inserted there should not be \$1.00.

Mayor Isen thought that the costs of this vacationing should be paid. This was discussed, with Councilman Beasley asking how much the approximate cost to the City would be.

The City Attorney did not know; in the past, we have calculated that \$100 would be a satisfactory fee. If the legal costs were included, this would be a great deal more. The City Attorney thought the publishing and posting would cost about \$25.00.

Councilman Bradford moved that the price of \$1.00 be set as has been the custom in the City in the past, and the proper insertion made in Section 2 of the Resolution.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 3668

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ORDERING THE ABANDONMENT AND SALE OF CERTAIN LAND IN THE CITY KNOWN AS LOT P-6 OF THE TORRANCE TRACT.

Councilman Jahn moved to adopt Resolution No. 3668, with the price of \$1 inserted in Section 2.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Blount, Bradford, Drale, Jahn. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Jahn moved that the Council adopt a policy of accepting no more property if it has a reversionary clause.

The City Attorney reported that almost all street easements have a reversionary clause.

Mayor Isen believed each case should be considered individually, and Councilman Benstead agreed with him.

The motion was lost for lack of a second.

Mayor Isen said he had voted against this because the price the City would get was \$1 and anyone could bid on this subject to the rights of Remco.

2. Hearing on Resolutions Nos. 3660 and 3667 Declaring Public Nuisance to hear any and all property owners having any objections to the proposed removal of weeds and rubbish covered in Resolutions Nos. 3660 and 3667, declaring parcels listed on pages 1 through 15 and 16 inclusive, described in said Resolution to be a public nuisance, and providing for the abatement thereof, excepting the following parcels, which Mayor Isen directed be spread in the Minutes in full:

<u>RESOLUTION NO. 3667</u>			
PARCEL	PAGE	PARCEL	PAGE
1	56	11	28
80	56	12	28
155	56	13	28
156	56	14	28
13	57	15	28
157	57	16	28
158	57	<u>RESOLUTION NO. 3660</u>	
159	57	7	5
1122	59	8	5
1123	59	9	5
1124	59	10	5
5	28	11	5
6	28	193	16
7	28	194	16
8	28	195	16
9	28	196	16
10	28	197	16
		7	16



RESOLUTION NO. 3660

<u>PARCEL</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
8	16
9	16
10	17
113	22
116	22
2	22
124	23
125	23
126	23
128	23
2	24
3	24
7	24
8	24
12	24
143	24
144	24
4	30
5	30
311	30
289	30
853	42
855	42
854	42

Mayor Isen asked if anyone present wished to be heard, but there was no reply.

Councilman Jahn moved to close this Hearing.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale.

Councilman Bradford noted that many of the parcels listed here are the property of the schools and the City; he asked if we were going to clean our land, and if the schools would clean theirs.

Mr. Bob Carleson, Administrative Aide, said the schools will clean their own property; they do not pay taxes, so we could not put a lien on them. We have a special agreement with the State under which we clean the land they own within the City. He said we will clean our own property, but there is no necessity for going through the legal procedures on it.

Councilman Bradford felt we should be sure that if the taxpayers are required to clean their property, that the schools do not procrastinate, saying that what is good for the people who support the schools is good for the schools.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 3669

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR  
OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIS REPRESENTATIVES AND  
EMPLOYEES TO ABATE THE NUISANCE LOCATED ON  
PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE DESCRIBED IN  
RESOLUTION NO. 3660 AND RESOLUTION NO. 3667.

Councilman Jahn moved to adopt Resolution No. 3669.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Bradford, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Isen at this time explained to the audience the Council's procedures.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM PLANNING COMMISSION:

1. CASE NO. 567 - VARIANCE: Transmittal form from the Planning Commission recommending approval of request of John R. Cassinelli for a Variance to construct four units on Lot 34, Tract 3218, in Zone M-1. Attached to the form were a location sketch and an excerpt from the Planning Commission Minutes of April 1, 1959.

Councilman Blount said the petitioner asked for 4 units, and the recommendation here says 3 units and two buildings. He did not understand this.

Planning Director Powell said the original application had been for 2 duplexes, meaning 4 units. During the hearings, it had been agreed there would be one duplex and a single-family residence, or 3 units. There is a building on the property now, where Mr. Cassinelli lives. It is a large piece of property.

Mayor Isen asked if the 3 units could be in one building.

Mr. Powell said they could, but from a planning standpoint this would not be desirable; he distributed drawing of the property to the Councilmen. He said he had taken pains to prepare this so there could be no misunderstanding about this. This property is one block west of Hawthorne, on the north side of Emerald, immediately adjacent to the small subdivision Mr. Watt had built there which had been approved by the County before the City acquired the area.

Councilman Jahn moved the Variance be granted, and asked that the Exhibit become a part of the Variance and that there shall be a description of 60' x 176' as the size of the lot, with a duplex with the garages between toward the rear, and the single family unit on the front of the property on Mansel.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale.

Councilman Bradford said he did not feel the Planning Commission spells out exactly what they mean. This leaves a doubt in his mind. He wanted to be sure the Commission was giving the Council their meaning in these things; he felt many of the communications the Council received from them were ambiguous.

Mayor Isen said as long as this was on the floor, he felt that at the last meeting of the Council they had discussed Planning Commission Minutes of a specific date; he understood those Minutes had not been prepared when the case came here.

Councilman Beasley said the Council had considered that matter prematurely, and there had not been time to have it legally advertised before it came here.

Mayor Isen felt it was regrettable this was so mishandled when the Planning Commissioners had been present and could have cleared this up for the Council.

Councilman Benstead questioned whether this was accidental.

Councilman Jahn said the factory in question can still be built where they want to build it, and he felt the people should know that.

Councilman Drale moved the question.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Bradford.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. With a letter dated April 10, 1959, John W. Simpson, a member of the Airport Commission, told the Council that his position is unchanged, and he will continue to serve the City on that Commission if the Council feels that will suffice.

2. An April 16, 1959, letter from R. E. Floyd, a member of the Airport Commission, advised the Council that he has not missed a meeting since his appointment to that Commission and that he plans to continue such service to the City.

Councilman Benstead moved these both be filed as a matter of record.

Councilman Jahn said he had talked to Mr. Herrick, who told him that he had not received anything from the Council asking for such a letter as this.

Mayor Isen directed that one be sent, and asked the Airport Manager to call this request to the attention of Mr. Carroll.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

3. An April 10, 1959, letter from the Southwood National Little League, 21914 Linda Drive, signed by Mrs. Beatrice Bongard, invited the Councilmen to the parade planned to signal the opening of the season.

Mayor Isen ordered this filed, with the Councilmen to note the time and date of these festivities.

Councilman Bradford returned to the Items 1 and 2, saying he did not think the Commission could do a good job with only 2 or 3 members in attendance.

Mayor Isen felt the Council had been getting satisfactory work from the Commission.

Councilman Beasley suggested that if the Council did not hear from the other members of the Commission by next Tuesday, their seats be declared vacant and new appointments be made.

Councilman Drale said Mr. Herrick had been out of town on business, and he believed that should be excused; he believed the Ordinances made such allowances.

Councilman Beasley agreed, but still did not believe a man could do a good job if he could only attend 1 meeting out of every 3 or 4.

Mayor Isen asked Mr. Egan to communicate with Messrs. Herrick and Carroll, asking their intentions in this matter.

The Council then returned to discussion of Item 3, the letter from the Little League.

Councilman Drale said the Traffic Commission would like to know the route they will travel well before the date.

Capt. Maestri of the Police Dept. was present, and said he had a copy of the letter; he agreed to contact the responsible persons.

4. An April 2, 1959, letter from the City of Redondo Beach was signed by J. W. Renke, Director of Street Lighting and Traffic Control. The letter concerned the widening of 190th St. between Inglewood Ave. and Rindge Lane; the share of the cost which Torrance would bear for the installation and the signals would be \$8,000.00. Mr. Renke gave an analysis of the traffic and control needs there.

Councilman Benstead moved to refer this to the Director of Public Works and the Traffic Commission for study and recommendation.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, no objections, so ordered.

Councilman Jahn believed we might be able to use a man in such a job as Mr. Renke's, "Director of Street lighting and traffic control". He felt that the letter made a lot of sense.

5. With a letter dated April 13, 1959, W. J. Hanson, Chairman of the Library Commission, invited the Council to be present for the opening ceremonies of the El Retiro Library at 2:00 P. M. on Saturday, April 25.

There were no objections, and this was ordered filed, with the time and date called to the attention of the Council.

6. An April 16, 1959, letter from El Rancho Rolling Hills, Inc., was signed by Dudley A. Smith, secretary. This asked for an extension of their lease period to 50 years for financing purposes.

Councilman Benstead thought this name should be changed to have the name of the City of Torrance in it.

Mayor Isen recalled his suggestion of some time ago that we have service charges in connection with services of this nature. They are asking for an amendment to their lease, and unless they offer to furnish all the documents so the City Attorney does not have to prepare them, there should surely be such a charge.

The City Attorney said when we receive such requests from lessees at the Airport, he would suggest that in the future we give some thought to fixing a renegotiation of price date in the amended leases; he thought perhaps we should have additional rent for the extension period at least.

Mayor Isen moved that the Council adopt a policy of negotiating the rental for the additional period when such leases are extended, and to make all such extensions subject to the condition that the lessee pay the legal expenses incurred by the City on an hourly basis.

Councilman Jahn asked if the motion could be contingent upon the starting date of the construction.

The City Attorney said there is a provision in their lease requiring certain dates should be met for beginning and completing construction.

Councilman Blount agreed with Councilman Jahn, saying we would be giving them the lease for another 4-1/2 years but we should get something.

Mayor Isen asked if there would be any objection to holding this for a week, with a proper motion to be handed to the Council by the Attorney embodying the remarks made by Councilman Jahn.

Councilman Bradford favored this request, and asked that at the same time the Council get excerpts from the Minutes of the Council meeting when Mr. Bjorklund was here about this.

Councilman Drale wanted to be sure the extra charge approved was made.

There were no objections, and the Mayor directed this to the attention of the City Attorney.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

1. With a letter dated April 17, 1959, the City Manager submitted the following recommendations for the Council's consideration and approval:

#### EXPENDITURES:

1. For one No. 56A6 Marbelite Standard, and appurtenances, the sum of \$354.69 including tax.
2. For the purchase of 86 law books for the City Attorney's office, the sum of approximately \$780 (a budget item).
3. To Arrow Engineering Co., Inc., for engineering services during the month of March, 1959, the sum of \$1,305.34.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the City Manager's recommendations under Expenditures, Items 1, 2 and 3.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

#### TRANSFER OF FUNDS: (Resubmitted; no action taken April 14)

1. That \$79,461.49 be transferred from the unappropriated reserve fund to the new city yard fund to cover expenses authorized for the improvement of the new city yard.

Councilman Drale moved to approve the Transfer of Funds as recommended. Motion seconded by Councilman Bradford, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Beasley referred to Item 4 on the City Manager's recommendations last week, and asked what had been done with it.

The City Manager said a study is being made on it.

Grass seed for Los Arboles, Paradise and La Romeria Parks:

The City Manager submitted to the Council a memo from C. L. Bone, dated April 21, 1959, and addressed to the City Manager; an analysis of the bids on 5,000 lbs. of grass seed for the parks was given, and Mr. Bone recommended that:

"Ferry Morse be awarded the bid, (lowest bidder) (\$2,103.40), and the seed be ordered as soon as possible so we may proceed with our landscaping at the new parks."

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with Mr. Bone's recommendation.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER:

1. With a letter dated April 17, 1959, the Assist. City Mgr. submitted to the Council a sketch showing proposed Space Re-allocation in City Hall Building. The letter gave the criteria which had been followed in this plan, and explained that all concerned department heads have been consulted. Mr. Bone, the Assist. City Mgr., advised the Council that if they approve the plan, we will proceed to effect the changes indicated.

Mr. Bone told the Council, in reply to a question, that the plan is not meant to be complete, but it seems to embody the most acceptable and practical solutions for our present needs. Through an expenditure of about \$1500, this plan can be completed; he estimated this would take care of our needs for about 2 years.

Councilman Jahn asked how people would get to the Planning Commission.

Mr. Bone said they would actually have more room than they do now. He added there would be an open space there with a receptionist.

The City Manager said a gate could be there to control the traffic.

Mayor Isen thought a lot of the people who go there should actually be routed to other offices, and some to the Chamber of Commerce.

Councilman Jahn did not see how this would take care of the people in the planning office.

Councilman Drale asked Director of Public Works Peebles if he had checked this plan, and Mr. Peebles said he had.

Mayor Isen thought this was as good a plan as could be worked out.

Councilman Bradford asked if any thought has been given to the need for expansion of the City Hall.

Mr. Bone said there has; he said consideration had been given to several possibilities, but it had been felt more detail should be prepared on the costs, etc., and a thorough discussion of it held with the Council.

Councilman Benstead asked if, under the plan presented here, we would remove any walls.

Mr. Bone said no bearing walls. He said we plan to relocate the Recreation Dept. in the old City Hall. As long as we own that building, we might as well use it. He had believed this was the opinion of the Council. He said we have 2 or 3 plans worked out with them on the use of the old building, which will take adequate care of their needs and serve them.

Councilman Bradford asked if the Chamber of Commerce is going to move in there.

Mr. Bone said that was up to the Council.

Mayor Isen liked the plan, but suggested that the Council might study them further.

Councilman Benstead did not agree that the Chamber of Commerce should go into the old City Hall building, but that they should stay where they are.



Councilman Jahn moved to concur with this plan.  
Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and it was so ordered.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE LICENSE DEPARTMENT:

The following three applications for free licenses were submitted, with recommendations from License Inspector Whitacre for approval but subject to health permits where required:

1. April 8, 1959, application from Torrance National Little League to operate a concession stand on their field at Jefferson & Oak; signed by Bernadine Hartley, Pres., Women's Auxiliary.

2. Junior Baseball League, letter dated April 8, 1959, applying for free license to operate concession stand at the Del Amo Baseball Field, 1750 Plaza Del Amo; signed by Bernadine Hartley, President, Women's Auxiliary, Torrance National Little League.

3. Military Order of the Purple Heart, Combat Veterans Industries, letter of March 16, 1959, asking for free license to solicit and pick up salvage within the City of Torrance; signed by R. Earl Sheehan.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of the License Inspector for approval, subject to health permits where applicable.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM AIRPORT COMMISSION:

1. With a letter dated April 16, 1959, Thos. B. Abrams, President of the Airport Commission, submitted their recommendation for approval of the Mercury Helicopter Service, Inc., application to establish an office and operate a helicopter service at Torrance Airport (Case No. 11-59).

Mayor Isen asked if this was the firm which had been here just a short time ago with a misleading name.

Councilman Jahn said this is a different firm.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the Airport Commission.

Motion seconded by Councilman Bradford.

Councilman Drale did not think \$20 a month was quite enough money, and he asked if they will stay there and operate every day.

Councilman Jahn thought they were only using this space about the size of a tie-down space, and said they are there every day.

Councilman Blount said this was not a day-to-day lease.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Bradford, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

2. With a letter dated April 16, 1959, Thos. B. Abrams, President of the Airport Commission, submitted their recommendation that the descriptions of our 100' x 100' sites at the airport be filed with the County Recorder, which will effect a great saving of time in the future.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur with the recommendation.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen.

Councilman Jahn asked if this is the same as a 'record of survey'.

Director of Public Works Peebles said not exactly the same.

Councilman Jahn thought that might be simpler and cheaper.

Mr. Peebles explained to Mr. Jahn that the County will not record a 'record of survey'.

Councilman Jahn did not agree, and this was discussed.

Acting City Engineer Bishop explained that the County 'files' the 'records of survey'.



Councilman Benstead moved to refer this to the Dept. of Public Works for further investigation and report.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objections, so ordered.

3. With a letter dated April 16, 1959, the President of the Airport Commission submitted their recommendation that the Council note the financial position of the Airport, which they felt was low.

Councilman Beasley moved this be filed.

Councilman Jahn wished to comment that this sort of information should not be disseminated, as he felt it was not a true picture. We have made substantial improvements at the Airport, and have been paying off the old lease; the Airport has paid its own way. A great deal of work has been done there, and the obligations are not due for some time.

There were no objections, and this was ordered filed.

4. With a letter dated April 16, 1959, President Thos. B. Abrams of the Airport Commission advised the Council of their commendation of Airport Manager Jack Egan for the excellent work he has done on the Airport during the past year; there has been a tremendous improvement of the physical facilities there, the letter said, and the public relations have improved greatly.

Mayor Isen added the encomiums of the Council, saying great progress has been made, and said he believed and thought he spoke with the concurrence of the Council.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with this, and the motion was seconded by Councilman Drale; no roll call was taken.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY:

1. With a letter dated April 15, 1959, the City Attorney submitted the following Quitclaim Deed to the Council for acceptance:

QUITCLAIM DEED dated April 8, 1959, from Robert L. Marks relinquishing all right, title and interest in the property priorly leased to Marks pursuant to that certain Lease dated August 12, 1957, (in accordance with the provisions contained in Paragraph 23 of Marks new Airport Lease dated December 10, 1958).

Councilman Jahn moved to accept this Quitclaim Deed.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

#### RESOLUTIONS:

##### 1. RESOLUTION NO. 3670

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF APRIL 20 TO APRIL 26 TO BE SECRETARIES WEEK AND APRIL 22 TO BE SECRETARIES' DAY.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3670.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

##### 2. RESOLUTION NO. 3671

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING A REVOCABLE EASEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND LOUIS R. ROSENTHAL FOR PUBLIC SIDEWALK PURPOSE.

Councilman Beasley moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3671.  
Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

The City Attorney told the Council he would need for them to move to authorize him to pay Mr. Rosenthal 1/36th of real taxes assessed against his property, which will be about \$40.00.

Councilman Jahn so moved.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Blount, Bradford, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

### 3. RESOLUTION NO. 3672

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING AMENDMENT TO AIRPORT HANGAR LEASE, DATED AUGUST 1, 1954, BETWEEN THE CITY AND E. G. KIDWELL.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3672.  
Motion seconded by Councilman Bradford, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

### 4. RESOLUTION NO. 3673

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING CERTAIN AMENDMENTS TO AIRPORT LAND USE AGREEMENT, DATED APRIL 1, 1951, BETWEEN THE CITY AND E. G. KIDWELL.

Councilman Beasley moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3673.  
Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

### ORDINANCES:

1. With a letter dated April 16, 1959, the City Attorney submitted for its first reading an ordinance prepared to eliminate an unnecessary section from the Streets and Sidewalks Chapter of the City Code.

### ORDINANCE NO. 1086

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING SECTION 25.33.6 WHICH PROVIDES FOR A PENALTY FOR THE VIOLATION OF THE EXCAVATIONS, GRADING, CUTS AND FILLS PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 25 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954".

Councilman Jahn did not believe that 'cuts and fills' should be in that section of the Code.

The City Attorney explained that this type of engineering ordinances were all in the same chapter.

Mayor Isen asked if we are giving up anything.

The City Attorney said a part of the Section was being eliminated to keep this regular.

Councilman Jahn thought this would be very hard to find.

The City Attorney said the whole Code is going to have to be re-worked and indexed soon, but he did not think this the time to do it.

Councilman Benstead moved to approve Ordinance No. 1086 at its first reading.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 6:30 P. M., Mayor Isen declared a recess, with the Council re-convening at 6:40 P. M.

PROCLAMATIONS:

1. With concurrence of the Council, Mayor Isen proclaimed May 1, 1959, as NATIONAL LAW DAY, and urged all citizens to observe this special day.
2. With concurrence of the Council, Mayor Isen proclaimed the week of April 19-25, 1959, as NATIONAL Y. W. C. A. WEEK, commending the Y. W. C. A. for the fine work they do.
3. With concurrence of the Council, Mayor Isen proclaimed May 2, 1959, as FIRE SERVICE DAY, and urged all the citizens of Torrance to recognize the splendid services rendered to our community by the Torrance Fire Dept.
4. With concurrence of the Council, Mayor Isen proclaimed the week of April 26-May 2, 1959, as GOOD READING WEEK, and urged everyone to encourage our youth to develop good reading habits.  
Mayor Isen read this Proclamation in full, saying our Committee for Decent Literature, which had originated this Proclamation, was originated about 15 months ago. They have done a fine job in our own City, and are serving as a model for similar Committees being formed in neighboring cities. He hoped the members of the Committee would offer themselves to other Committees as guides in this difficult task. There is no way to keep the public from going to adjoining areas to buy the type of literature which is harmful and dangerous to youth, and the Mayor alerted the Committee to the possibility of urging other areas, such as Gardena and Lomita, to join us in this crusade. He then suggested that our Committee might set up a sub-Committee to work with sub-Committees from other Cities to attain a certain uniformity in their work.  
Mayor Isen also thanked and commended the merchants and distributors in our area for their cooperation in our efforts along this line.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

1. City Manager Stevens presented a preliminary estimate of the Special Census, saying it is 96,955, which indicated a growth of about 3600 and will allow us about \$30,000 a year. He said this was very disappointing.
2. City Manager Stevens said the El Camino Civic Association is holding a meeting in the school in the Lawndale area on May 6, and have invited committees from different cities to answer questions on various facets of annexation or staying as they are. He asked if the Council would like to have our City represented there. If so, he thought there should be someone there from the Council, the Planning Commission, the Planning Director, etc., to answer questions.  
Councilman Drale moved to concur with this.  
Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, no objections, so ordered.
3. The City Manager had a summary of the results of the meeting with the Committee and the three bidders on the 9 acre tract at the airport; he said if the Council preferred, he would be glad to mail this to them tomorrow instead of distributing it tonight.  
Some of the Councilmen took the sheets the City Manager offered, and some asked to have them mailed.
4. Councilman Drale said the Committee the Mayor set up to consider the problem of employees having two jobs had set up a meeting at 5:30 P. M. next Tuesday with Mr. Woolley; he said he would like to have the information on that to study.
5. The City Manager said he had a request from the Mayflower Trailer Co. for the Council to approve their building plans so they can begin their new building; this approval is required by their lease.

He thought the plans satisfactory, he said, and recommended approval. He had their plans, which he offered to the Council for inspection.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with these plans.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead.

Councilman Jahn inspected the plans, and reported that the building will be 25' high.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

6. The City Manager presented a letter to the Council which had come in too late for the Agenda. This was from Helen U. Felton, 23825 Arlington Ave., and reported that she has put up a small commercial building at that corner, where there are curbs, gutters and sidewalks on Arlington. The City Engineer and Director of Public Works agree that grades are not available now or in the foreseeable future for the improvement of 239th St. She urged that she be allowed to post a bond for the curbs, sidewalks and gutters on the property in front of her home on 239th St. and have her building approved for occupancy.

Councilman Drale moved the request be granted if the required bond is posted.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn.

Councilman Beasley asked if that is not the policy of the City, and Acting City Engineer Bishop said it has been.

Councilman Blount did not think this a good policy when we could not foresee when the grades can be furnished. Under that circumstance, he did not see why she should have to furnish a bond.

Director of Public Works Peebles said he has planned for a Master Plan layout and he thinks work will begin on it within a few months.

Mayor Isen asked how much the bond would cost, and Councilman Jahn estimated this at a low figure.

Mayor Isen agreed in principle with Councilman Blount, saying if it is too long the premiums might be too much to be practical. He thought a personal surety bond would serve in a case of this kind.

Councilman Bradford asked if this is a new building ready for occupancy.

The City Manager understood that to be the case.

The Acting City Engineer said it is a new building.

Planning Director Powell offered to make a sketch. He also said it is a small building. He said it is a new building.

Councilman Bradford asked why the people always wait until a building is ready for occupancy before raising this point; he asked why they are not told about this when they take out building permits.

Mr. Peebles said this is now being done.

There were no objections, and the motion was ordered carried.

7. The City Attorney referred to the Narbonne Assessment District, and asked that Mr. McVicar report on this to the Council.

Mr. McVicar, Supt. of the Water Dept., reported that in the Narbonne Ranch Water Co. #2 as opposed to #3, in No. 2 in the area within the City between 236th St. and the southerly boundary of the City, and between Arlington and Crenshaw, there are some pipes which are mostly transite line put in since 1950. They are adequate if properly re-inforced. He suggested that, as the cost of putting in new lines there would be high, it might be better to take that area out of the District and purchase those lines. They vary in size from 4" through 8" lines. Mr. McVicar said some of the lines and connections we put in will re-inforce them.

Councilman Jahn asked if the Council had not made such a motion, and the City Attorney said the Council had referred it to a Committee. The report Mr. McVicar just gave the Council was the consensus of the Committee.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with Mr. McVicar's report.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objections, and it was so ordered.

Councilman Jahn wanted everyone concerned to know that the City is not taking away a private enterprise by starting this Assessment District. The City Government is duty-bound to render certain services to its citizens, and adequate water service, safe and sanitary, is one of them. Others are fire protection and health protection. He felt the people in that area had been getting poor water service for a long time.

8. The City Attorney said there are two amendments to the current weed abatement act which he would like to have the legislature make. He had discussed these with Mr. Keeler of the League, who had suggested it would be appropriate at this time for the City Attorney to prepare these, and for the Council to ask Mr. Thomas or someone we know to ask for the amendments.

The Mayor directed the Attorney to prepare these and put them on the Agenda for study, saying the next agenda would serve.

9. The City Attorney said the Council had the sketch which is to illustrate the proposed amendment to the Oil Well Drilling Act. That will be on the Agenda next week, and this is given to the Councilmen for study.

10. Councilman Beasley said the Inter-Cities Highway Committee has appointments to meet with the State Highway Commission about the San Diego Freeway on April 25, as well as an appointment with the Governor that same day. He said there is quite an impressive presentation ready to give them. There will be representatives there from Airesearch, the Broadway, and the May Co. to help with the proposal. He believed everyone would agree that our streets are becoming overcrowded, and will become even more so. It is most important to the whole area that the San Diego Freeway be completed. Unless we get the very high priority for this which we hope to get, there is danger we will not be able to get Federal funds to help. He believed the Chamber of Commerce to be sending two people to help with this, saying they are the Manager and Mr. Fred Mill, their President. Mr. Larry Wing of our Planning Commission will be in the area, and will attend at his own expense.

Councilman Beasley moved that those members of the Council who can attend be sent to Sacramento for these meetings, with appropriate expenses paid not to exceed \$150, and that the lay member of the Committee, Mr. John Barton, be sent with the same expense provision.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Beasley planned to attend this meeting, as do Councilmen Bradford, Drale, and Jahn.

11. Councilman Beasley said the City is faced with the problem of a new City library; we are outgrowing the auditorium; we are approaching the point of having to expand the City Hall if we want all the Departments in one building for the sake of better supervision; we have 27 acres of land here in the Civic Center, and he thought it time to plan to build. He believed it would take years at the least to get these things we need. We cannot expect to meet these problems from day to day without planning. It will require that the Department Heads responsible for planning begin to prepare for the completion of the Civic Center as befits a progressive community of almost 100,000 population.

Councilman Drale agreed that the buildings are not adequate; the property where the downtown buildings are should be put back on the tax rolls so we can get the benefit from it. In line with what he thought and what Councilman Beasley had said, he suggested the formation of a Citizens' Committee to seek out the information, and, perhaps, plan to develop an auditorium on our Civic Center, at least.

Councilman Beasley said if we are to continue to develop as an



industrial City, we must provide the facilities for growth. There is no pressure on us now for these, but there will be. It takes time, he said, to determine these things and plan for them.

Mayor Isen suggested that the Council consider this for a week or so.

Councilman Beasley said he would like to have the City Manager's office working on this.

Mayor Isen said a lot of this ties back to the park bond issue.

Councilman Bradford said several months ago, he had suggested that the City Manager submit a plan to the Council outlining as well as possible what the City's responsibility would be for some years in the future, and the City Manager is working on it.

The City Manager said he hopes to have such an outline to present to the Council at budget time. The preliminary budget will be presented next month, with quite full reports on the needs of the departments for the next 5 years. Each department is preparing lists, with priorities showing what they think their needs will be for the next 5 years. In that will be our estimate of the needs of the City Hall, Auditorium, Jail, etc.; there will also be at least a study of library requirements.

Mayor Isen suggested this be held for study.

Councilman Beasley said he had been brought to this train of thought by Councilman Bradford's request for a long-term plan.

12. Councilman Blount wished the record to show that in case there is a vacancy on the Airport Commission, he would suggest that Joe Doss be appointed to fill it.

Mayor Isen said that suggestions on appointments were welcome, but asked that in the future they be made privately to prevent anyone being embarrassed.

13. Councilman Blount said his vote on the Joint Powers Agreement had been positive only because the City Manager had recommended it. He has looked into this further. The matter is apparently going to be submitted to the Council in an Ordinance providing for the agreement. He will have to vote against it then.

14. Councilman Blount referred to the Minutes of the Staff meeting; he said the City Attorney had made a statement there about the agreement with Palos Verdes, and had said it would be here. It is not, and he asked why.

The City Attorney said it had to be amended.

15. Councilman Bradford presented to the Mayor and Council, on behalf of the Tournament of Roses Committee, the plaque awarded to us as first prize winner in our class in the last Tournament of Roses parade. He asked that this be posted in the Trophy Room of the City Hall.

Mayor Isen accepted the plaque for the Council, and requested Mr. Bone, to whom he handed the plaque, to see that this is posted for viewing.

16. Councilman Bradford moved that the Recreation Dept. provide a new movie screen for McMaster Park. He said the one there now is in disrepair.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

17. Councilman Bradford asked whose responsibility it is to correct the paving on Sepulveda where the contractor followed a drain across the paving; if he has to correct this, Councilman Bradford thought the City should require him to do it; if it is the City's responsibility, he thought it should be done. He felt that contractors have been allowed a great deal of leeway in their agreements with the City.



18. Councilman Bradford referred to the land leased by Jefferson, Inc., and asked if it is their intention to call that development "Rolling Hills Plaza".

The City Manager said that is the name of the development.

Councilman Bradford asked if the City has any jurisdiction over that name, saying he thinks it is a disgrace that they do not use the name of Torrance. He thinks this sort of thing should be stopped. This is in the City of Torrance, and the name should so signify. He pointed out in some detail the confusion resulting from the name of the new Broadway store, which is called the "Broadway Del Amo", saying people do not know where it is.

Councilman Blount said the particular development Jefferson built had come here.

19. Councilman Bradford said AB 1896 is now before the House in Sacramento; he asked the City Manager to get copies of it for all the Councilmen to read. He said it actually eliminates City government and creates a commission to rule. He was opposed to it, and believed all the Councilmen would be.

Councilman Jahn moved that the City Manager prepare the same kind of letter he had prepared before, and that he address it to the proper parties, and the Councilmen sign them.

Motion seconded by Councilman Bradford, and he asked to amend the motion to ask that copies be sent to the "Committee for Community and Municipal Government."

Amendment was accepted in the motion, and as there were no objections, the motion was ordered carried.

20. Councilman Drale said there had been another accident at 174th and Arlington; he had talked to Mr. Peebles today, and Mr. Peebles had told him that the program is under way for control of the fast traffic and we will probably have a signal there shortly. He suggested that the Police check the street more closely in that area.

21. Councilman Jahn reported on his attendance at the World Congress of Flight, saying it had been one of the most magnificent sights imaginable.

22. Mayor Isen asked that suggestions for appointments to Commissions be made to him privately; he had no objection to them, but this will avoid any embarrassment.

23. Mayor Isen said he had told the Council last week he thought that Sections 2.1 and 2.2 of the Code should be repealed. They actually work against the interests of the City, as they prevent qualified people, familiar with City problems, from being appointed to the Council or Commissions. Conditions were different when those Sections were adopted.

Councilman Drale agreed, saying he believed that the Sections in question might not be constitutional.

Mayor Isen moved to repeal Sections 2.1 and 2.2 of the Code.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Isen directed the City Attorney to prepare the necessary ordinances.

24. Councilman Benstead moved that all bills properly audited be paid.

Motion seconded by Councilman Blount.

25. Patsy Day, 2824 W. 137th St., Hawthorne, asked that corrective measures be taken about the drainage on Crenshaw just south of the Flood Control Channel on the west side of the street.

Councilman Jahn said a contract had been let for the improvement

of that area.

Mrs. Day said if the weeds were cleared, the water could drain away.

Councilman Drale was familiar with this, and said he thought the City should acquire an easement there for the widening of Crenshaw so we can pave that little 'draw' and drain it to the channel.

Mayor Isen asked the Director of Public Works for a report on this at the next Council meeting.

26. Councilman Benstead renewed his motion for the payment of bills, and Councilman Blount renewed his second to the motion, which carried unanimously by roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 P. M.



A. H. Bartlett, City Clerk of the City of  
Torrance, California

APPROVED:



Mayor of the City of Torrance